



HORSE & PONY RULES



- Western horses must be ridden in a western stock saddle. Tie-downs, martingales, and mechanical hackamores of any type are prohibited unless otherwise indicated in class description. Split or Romal reins are permissible, but roping reins are not allowed except in Ranch Horse & Rodeo.
- Cross entries between Colt to Maturity and Green Horse may not be made.
- **Classes listed in this book are NOT in class order. There will be a show schedule printed prior to the show. Be sure to obtain one and refer to it for times and locations of your classes.** Classes having less than 3 entries may be cancelled or combined.
- Procedures and class criteria will follow the appropriate **project manual** and the United States Equine Federation (USEF) Rule Book. See Committee for USEF Rule Book.
- **Colt to Maturity** members (horses) may enroll in the following projects and/or classes: Driving, Trail, Western/English Pleasure, Western Horsemanship/Hunt Seat Equitation, Performance Halter & Showmanship. If you are using more than one horse in any class, you must designate which is to be used for high point award if such award is given.
- **NO POST ENTRIES**
- For the purpose of determining eligibility for competition, the age of the horse shall be computed by the calendar year starting on January 1st of the year foaled.
- If showing in English and Western, you cannot be more than 1 level apart.
- * **Grievance Procedure: The Horse Committee will have a designated Show Manager who will hear all grievances and will take the information to the Horse Committee. If no resolution can be reached it will go to the County Grievance Committee whose decision will be final.**



HORSE SHOW GLOSSARY



Appearance of Horse – Clean coat that emphasizes luster, count down for obvious added oils. Hair trimming should accentuate quality about head and legs and the characteristics of the specific breed. Hooves cleaned, properly trimmed and shaped. No preferences will be made for hoof dressing or coloring. Tack should be clean, neat, adjusted and should compliment the horse. At no time does fancy attire or equipment take precedence over suitable, workmanlike attire and equipment.

Bareback Equitation – Class will be judged on manners, performance and style. Western or English type tack may be used but all exhibitors will show in the same class. English riders must wear a long sleeve shirt, no jacket. English riders must post the trot.

Colt to Maturity – Open only to members assessed to level 4 Horsemanship and enrolled in the Colt to Maturity project. This project is started with a yearling and taken consecutively until the horse reaches the end of its fifth year.

Dressage – French word meaning “training”. Uses basic maneuvers to teach the horse to accept the bit, become round in its body and move in a collected manner. Horse and rider are judged performing individual tests. They are scored and points awarded for each maneuver.

Driving – Pleasure: see Harness Driving Manual EM4881. The Pleasure driving horse should have basically the same general qualities as the pleasure saddle horse. Ground: The driver is not riding in a conveyance of any kind. The driver will walk or run in the arena while driving the horse. Cart: Driver is riding in the cart and controls the horse pulling it. Precision: This tests the skills of the driver, obedience and handiness of the animal and the accuracy with which the course is driven. Judged based on performance, manner and appropriateness of entry. Required to drive over a course consisting of 6-8 obstacles.

Equitation Class– This class is judged on the rider’s ability to ride and show the horse. He/she is judged on the use of hands, seat, and legs to influence his/her mount. May have to perform tests such as dropping stirrups, hand gallop, etc.

Faults – Mistakes made by the horse and rider combination in jumping. These include run outs, refusals, breaking gait, loss of the rein or stirrup, and a fall. Knockdowns are also called faults.

Free Style Reining – Western Event, rider creates a program to music using standard reining maneuvers. A pattern and personal music must be submitted prior to riding. There are required maneuvers – see AHSA rulebook.

Green Horse – Classes open only to horses enrolled in that project, similar to Colt to Maturity classes with different skill levels. Designed for horses that do not qualify for the Colt to Maturity project. Patterns based on levels will be posted.

Halter Class– Halter Class is defined as a class in which the horse is judged upon its conformation. Conformation is defined as the physical appearance due to the arrangement of muscle, bone and other body tissues. Judging conformation depends upon an objective evaluation.